



# THE DISPATCHER

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**Long road to victory:** After a decade of struggle, workers at the Pacific Beach Hotel won their first contract agreement.

## Victory for Pacific Beach workers in Honolulu

It was early in the afternoon of December 29, 2012 at the Pacific Beach Hotel – site of countless rallies and demonstrations led by Local 142. But on this day, instead of chants and slogans there were cheers, hugs, and high-fives. After more than 10 years of struggle, tentative agreement was reached on a first union contract for Pacific Beach workers.

For more than a decade, showing up for work at the Pacific Beach Hotel meant facing eight hours of intimidation and disrespect. The intimidation peaked in 2007 when 31 union supporters were fired – including 7 of the 10 union negotiating committee members. The fight intensified.

A local boycott of the hotel was called by Hawaii unions, community groups, and elected officials. At the request of Local 142, President McEllrath convinced the AFL-CIO to place the Pacific Beach Hotel on its national boycott list.

Union federations in the Philippines, Canada, and Japan also came forward to support the Pacific Beach workers and the boycott went international. The solidarity of unions in Japan – led by Zenkowan, the All-Japan Dockworkers Union – was



**Global solidarity:** Zenkowan, the All-Japan Dockworkers Union, voted to support the workers at the Pacific Beach Hotel. The solidarity efforts of Zenkowan and other Japanese unions was critical because most of the hotel's guests are Japanese.

especially critical because most of the hotel's guests were Japanese.

"This fight could not have been won without the strength and determination of the Pac Beach workers. These workers faced firings, harassment, and intimidation for over 10 years – but they still stuck with the ILWU." stated International Vice President-Hawaii Wesley Furtado.

Furtado continued: "But the workers weren't alone. Global solidarity was also key to their victory."

Pacific Beach Hotel workers in non-tipped jobs won a 5% raise in the first year and a total increase of 13% over four years. Tipping category workers improved and secured

their tips, and all workers will see major improvements in their benefits and job security. Contract ratification was nearly unanimous, with only one "no" vote.

But Pacific Beach workers did more than just improve their standard of living. They also built the foundation of a strong unit to take on the struggles that lie ahead.

Virginia Recaido, a 20-year housekeeper and negotiating committee member, was fired in 2007. She found another better-paying job, but went back to the hotel after a judge ordered the company to reinstate her. Why? "I had to show the

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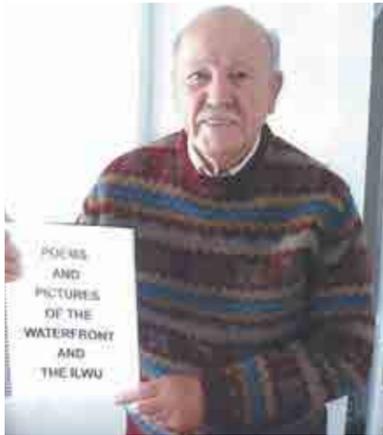


## LETTERS TO THE DISPATCHER

Dear Editor,

I was very glad to that you included my picture-poetry book in the December issue of the *Dispatcher*. I was also delighted that Art Almeida's, *Wobblies in San Pedro*, was also included. Art's book is a first-hand conversation with the author and former Wobblies. It is very informative on Wobbly history and answers many questions about the horrific raids on the Wobblies union in San Pedro in the early 1920s.

**Jerry Brady, Local 63 (Ret.)  
San Pedro, CA**



Send your letters to the editor to: *The Dispatcher*, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94109-6800 or email to [editor@ilwu.org](mailto:editor@ilwu.org)

### Local 63-OCU vote scheduled

Local union officials have announced a membership ratification vote has been scheduled on Wednesday, February 6th for the tentative agreement reached following the 8-day strike that ended on December 4, 2012. The *Dispatcher* will report on the results in the next issue.

## Two worlds, one brotherhood

I recently went on a trip to Panama. Before leaving I remembered the Panama Canal Pilots had affiliated with the ILWU. Through friends at the longshore caucus, I made contact with ILWU Vice President Ray Familathe, who was able to get me in contact with a few of the pilots before I left.

I am a member of Local 98, Puget Sound Foreman, so I have the opportunity to work with members from many different locals. As time was short before I left, I made contact with only the closest locals and picked up some shirts and hats to give to our Panamanian Brothers and Sisters. I made my initial contact with ILWU International Executive Board member, Captain Londor Rankin and within moments I had a response and contact information for some other brothers from Panama including Rainiero Salas, Secretary General (President) of their union. I was immediately impressed with the generosity and sincerity of the men that I was communicating with. I was asked about my needs or interests that they might be able to help with and they made themselves available for assistance if it was needed it.

I called Londor after arriving at our hotel. He was working "in the canal" so our conversation was broken up between him moving a ship in the locks. We made plans to meet the next day. Being ignorant of the Canal and the pilot's shifts, I called Londor about 9:00 a.m. and made arrangements to meet. My

traveling party planned to leave for the resort about 3:00 p.m. so our time was limited. He picked me up and we began a whirlwind tour of Panama City. Londor ran me out to see the Canal, Miraflores and Pedro Miguel locks, the Pilot station, and their union hall. We grabbed a quick lunch and had some time to sit and talk. That is when I found out that Londor's transit of the canal ended after 5:00 a.m. I felt guilty that I ruined his sleep, but I was also amazed at his commitment to help me and his generosity with his time. He said that their union meeting was the following Wednesday, and invited me to meet more of the Pilots. I said I would love to but was I staying about 70 miles away and the group needed our van that night. Londor said they could work it out and arrange to pick me up and get me home.

Wednesday came and Pilot Orlando Rebolledo made arrangements to drive two hours west to pick me up for the union meeting. We drove and talked. Orlando explained that his son, Orlando, Jr., was a graduate of the Maritime Academy and had recently flown to LAX to meet his ship at the Port of Long Beach. The agent had failed to meet him at the airport and he was stranded at LAX. He was in a foreign country and didn't know anyone, or any have contacts. Orlando Jr., called his father, who then called Londor to see if he knew anyone that could help. Londor called Ray Familathe—who was in San Francisco at the time—and Ray assured Londor he would find a brother to help. Ray



**Cross border brotherhood:** Local 98 member Rodney Edgbert (left) with Rainiero Salas, Secretary General of the Panama Canal Pilots.

called Stefan Muller, ITF inspector in Los Angeles. Stefan soon had Orlando Jr. in transit to a hotel and made arrangements to pick him up in the morning to deliver him to the gangway of his ship. The connection was relayed back to Orlando Sr., much to his relief. I felt privileged to share in this story and also proud of our union and the solidarity we share.

Orlando Sr. sent an email to Vice President Familathe thanking him for helping out his son and really sums up the importance of our union brotherhood. He wrote: "I can't find the words to thank you for doing me the great favor of helping my son. I have strived to teach my children the importance of friendship. Although in our line of work the more accurate term would be brotherhood. When Londor called me to tell me he had spoken with you and everything was under control I realized how important it was to be a member of this ILWU brotherhood."

We made it to the union hall in time for dinner before the meeting. They provide dinner for the pilots because some are coming straight up from the canal and others are leaving the meeting heading to the canal. Orlando introduced me to Secretary General Rainiero Salas (Ray S). I was given an opportunity to address the body and I was greeted very warmly. After the meeting I was able to talk with Ray S. one-on-one. We shared stories about our work, our unions, passions and concerns. The more we talked the more I realized the unique fit and blend that our unions have. Secretary General Salas shared how the pilots became interested in the ILWU and that it went all the way back to the lockout and negotiations of 2002. Londor Rankin, who was then serving as Secretary General of the Panama Canal Pilots, was invited to sit in on some of the negotiations, and from what I understand the employers were not at all happy

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## DISPATCHER

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# Local 19 opposition to SoDo stadium remains firm

Local 19 issued a press release in January, affirming their opposition to a new sports stadium being proposed for Seattle's South of Downtown neighborhood (SoDo). Local 19 isn't opposed to a new stadium in some other location, but the membership voted against a location in SoDo where traffic congestion could threaten thousands of jobs at Seattle's working waterfront.

## Big money behind SoDo site

The SoDo stadium is being pushed by wealthy tycoons with support from local politicians and land speculators. Local 19 members sued because the SoDo boosters failed to properly consider alternative sites for the stadium – as required by state environmental laws – before signing a deal with the investors that locked-down the SoDo location.

## Billionaires try to buy NBA team

Buzz about the SoDo stadium scheme increased in January when it was disclosed that the Sacramento Kings basketball team was being sold to the tycoons behind the SoDo stadium deal, including hedge fund investor Chris Hansen who is worth a minimum of \$300 million; Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer who is worth \$15 billion, and members of the Nordstrom family who made a fortune from the luxury department store retail empire.

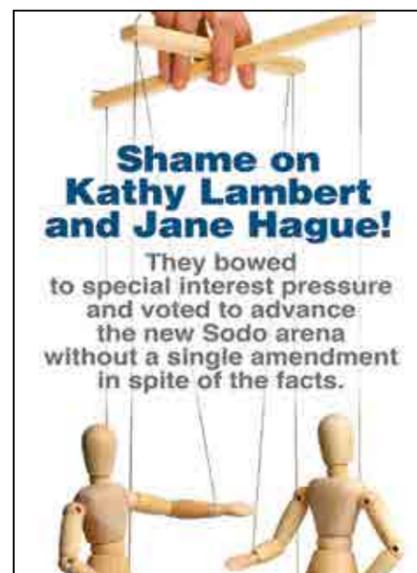
## Opponents gets attention

Opposition to the stadium site is coming from Local 19 members, multiple maritime, freight, and manufacturing stakeholders, and the Port Commission – all of whom are worried about the fate of 35,000 jobs and \$3 billion in annual revenue generated by the Port. The campaign by critics has already forced stadium backers to offer \$40 million for transportation projects intended to ease congestion in SoDo if the stadium is built there. But the

stadium boosters unrealistically expect state and federal taxpayers to match that amount – in addition to the \$200 million they already expect local taxpayers to fork-over for financing a new stadium. And \$40 million is just a fraction of what's needed to fix traffic problems in the SoDo area – even without building a third stadium there.

## Standing firm

"Their offers to mitigate the congestion problem haven't shaken Local 19's opposition to the site and our lawsuit remains in place," said Local 19 President Cam Williams. "They need to follow the law and look at other locations where good jobs aren't threatened like they will be in SoDo if a new stadium is built here." TTI/Hanjin, the terminal operator at Pier 46 who would be most impacted by the project, recently agreed to extend their lease by another ten years, and Local 19's opposition to the arena was a factor in the lease extension. "That is a victory for us," said Williams. "But this issue isn't settled yet".



## Reaching out to the public:

Opponents of the SoDo stadium used direct mailers to get their message out to the community about public funds used for the private stadium development.

# Settlement wins back wages for Local 13 fumigators in Port of LA

ILWU Local 13 has represented a dozen commercial fumigators in the Port of Los Angeles since 1990. These members fumigate the fruit that longshoremen discharge at SSAs berth 55 in San Pedro. Late in 2012 one of the members reported contract violations to the union and the officers began an investigation. The local identified multiple contractual violations and complaints were filed against the employer. Several meetings were held with the fumigators to discuss the issues and collectively decide on how the union and workers would move forward.

Discussions with the direct employer became stalled in late December

and Local 13 began preparing Unfair Labor Practices (ULP) charges against the employer and scheduled a date for arbitration of the complaints. With a deadline looming, the employer discussions on a settlement began in earnest and slow steady progress was made. A final demand was presented to the employer and they were given one week to accept or move forward with arbitration. On the sixth day, the employer agreed with all union demands and on January 23, the workers signed off on the resolution of the complaints. The employer will pay out \$73,000 in back wages, vacation and holiday pay.

"These brothers came to the union with significant and egregious violations of their collective bargaining agreement; the officers took immediate steps to bring their employer into compliance with the contract," said Bobby Olvera, Jr Vice President of Local 13.

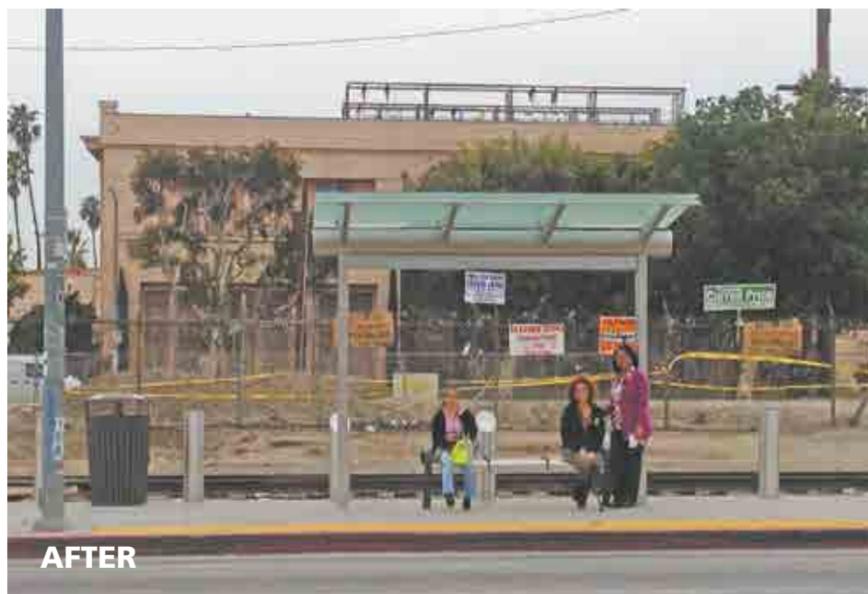


**Arbitration victory:** Local 13 fumigators won \$73,000 in back wages, vacation and holiday pay in a settlement with their employer.

"This resolve is more than just a monetary settlement, it reaffirms the ILWU motto: An Injury to one is an Injury to all."

"It felt as if we were alone until the officers of Local 13 took up our cause," said ILWU Local 13 Fumigator Juan Diaz. "We are a small unit

but we work very hard and work with very dangerous chemicals on a daily basis. Our company treated us unfairly and mocked the union. They are not doing either one of those things now. I am very proud to be a member of the ILWU."



**ILWU community service:** There's finally a covered bus stop near the ILWU Local 26 union hall that serves the working-class community in the South Central neighborhood of Los Angeles where residents previously stood in the pouring rain and blazing sun with nowhere to sit. Local 26 led the bus stop campaign that took a decade of pestering City Councilmembers, County Supervisors and members of Congress. "We finally got it done," said ILWU Local 26 President Luisa Gratz, who added, "it's part of our service to the working class community where our building has been located since 1950." Gratz thanked Local 26 secretary Doretha Benton (far right) for typing so many letters.

# ILWU Locals show holiday spirit with generous toy drives along the Coast

ILWU members along the Coast banded together to make possible a happy holiday season for thousands of families that are still struggling in an economy that has failed to fully recover from the recent recession. Members, pensioners and auxiliary clubs partnered with local charity groups to donate toys, money and time to their communities in the ILWU spirit of solidarity and helping those in need. Because of the generosity of ILWU members, thousands of families who have been struggling to make ends meet were able to have a happier Christmas.

## Southern California Children's Christmas Party

Now in its 15th year, the 2012 Southern California ILWU Children's Christmas Party helped approximately 3,000 kids have a happy holiday season according to Lisa Tonson, lead person for the Holiday Events Committee. Over 100 volunteers helped to make this year's event possible. The committee reached out to over 35 local non-profits to identify families in the area who may be in need of some assistance.

Preparation for the children's party began in the early morning of December 17 with volunteers that included ILWU members, children and teens, who set out rows of toys and sports equipment. By 9am the hall was filled with Christmas music and children and their families began filing into the ILWU Memorial Hall. Children were

allowed to pick a toy of their choice and were treated to cookies, punch, face painting and a visit from Santa.

Locals 13, 26, 63, 94, the Federated Auxiliary 8, Southern California Pensioners, Longshoremen Memorial Association and the Local 63 Memorial Association all made this year's holiday party possible. The Holiday Events Committee works year round to plan and organize the holiday charity events.

## Bay Area toy drive

Local 10's Christmas Party helped a multitude of families and hundreds of children celebrate the holidays on Saturday afternoon, December 8. There were generous servings of food, sweet treats, a magician, face-painters and balloon artists. Santa Claus was the most popular attraction, with children lined up for hours on end to tell him their Christmas wishes. A large team of volunteers made the event possible, coordinated by Frank Cresci, Henry Pellom, Chris Christensen and Beth Susim who worked with ID Casuals Ada Chilton, Carlos Villanueva and Keith Washington plus Pensioner Ralph Rooker and Gloria English from Local 34. Photographs of the children's party were captured by Local 10 member Kelley Kane.

Toys for Tots donations were gathered at Local 10's hall during the month of December. The huge pile of gifts kept growing until union Fire Fighters picked them up on December 19. The success of the event was made possible by the many contributions from the members of Local 10, 34, 75, 91 and Bay Area Pensioners.

For the second year in a row, Local 34 members decided to organize



**Teddy bears:** Longtime Local 10 member Annie Fuller recently retired after 34 years on the job, posed with granddaughters: 14 year-old Talia and 2 year-old Kay Marie Fuller. They were among hundreds at Local 10's holiday celebration.



**Santa visits Seattle:** Local 19 members donated over \$2,000 to the Harborview Hospital burn unit. Local 19 member Robert MacDonald played Santa and distributed gifts to kids at the hospital.



**Spreading some cheer in Everett:** Traditionally Local 32 members have joined with members of Local 98, Local 32 Pensioners and Federated Auxiliary #4 to contribute for an annual Christmas turkey giveaway to local charities. This year, the effort was organized by Larry Hudson and raised over \$1700 worth of frozen turkeys that were delivered by Local 32 members to local charities in time for the Christmas holiday.

Local 32 President Nick Hoekendorf (left) praised local member John Baylor (right) for organizing a new local tradition. John recognized and appreciated what some of the other Puget Sound and Columbia River locals have done during the holidays to collect and distribute bicycles to local charities. With the help of some Local 92 members, Pensioners and Auxiliary, Local 32 donated over 45 new bicycles and several new coats to a local children's charity.

A spokesperson from the local charity said, "Getting \$1700 worth of turkeys and 45 bicycles from such a small group of 45 members is an incredible contribution."

Local 32 President Nick Hoekendorf said, "I want to recognize and commend the men and women who donated to local charities this holiday season. They did a great job and let's do it again!"

a holiday bike drive to give back to their community. They partnered with the "Cycles of Change" organization in Oakland's Fruitvale neighborhood which sponsors after-school bike clubs, a "Safe Routes to Schools" program that teaches children about safety, and a bike shop that trains young bike mechanics and allows volunteers to "earn-a-bike" by helping in the shop. Although they fell a little short of meeting last year's total, Local 34 members are hoping to surpass it in 2013.

## Local 19's Christmas for Kids

Thanks to the generous contributions from Local 19 members, the 2012 Christmas for Kids committee raised a total \$16,754 that was used to benefit several local community charities. This year, \$7,204 was donated to Teen Feed, a program that helps street kids. Donations included backpacks filled with toiletries, sleeping bags, money for bus passes and turkeys for their annual Christmas dinner party.

In addition, \$2,011 was donated to the Harborview Hospital burn unit and once again Santa (played by Local 19 member Robert MacDonald) went to the hospital and gave gifts to the kids in the burn unit.

And \$5,000 was donated to Tree House, an organization that helps

foster kids. Steve Wintermute and Carol Brogdon went to the KIRO radio telethon for Tree House and challenged others to donate and match the \$5,000 donation. Because of this challenge an additional \$2,500 was raised by those who called in and donated to the telethon. A portion of the contribution went to buy gifts for kids whose parents are in a recovery program.

In addition to the charity organizations, the Christmas for Kids committee received a last minute request to help a family of 8 whose power had been shut off for a year. After meeting the family, the committee decided to get their power turned back on, and also gave them a \$300 gift card for food. Each child was given a new winter coat and a gift. Local 19 Member Russ Shepherd also bought the family \$200 in food and blankets, and members Joey Domingues and Collin Bustanoby also donated food to the family.

The Local 19 Christmas for Kids committee members and volunteers included: Carol Brogdon (Chair), Jeannine Lofton, Allison Steichen, Russ Shepherd, Steve Wintermute, Rex and Kevin Wilkins his and son, Robert MacDonald, Tamara Sanmiguel, JackBlock Jr., Allison Steichen, Joey Domingues and Collin Bustanoby and Liz Fairbanks took Santa photos.



**Feeding the hungry:** Local 23 members volunteer year-round at St. Leo's kitchen.



Photo by Kelley Kane

**Holiday dinner for Bay Area Pensioners** was held on Sunday, December 9. The group feasted on ham, turkey and all the trimmings, thanks to the effort of volunteers Betty Malveaux, Nancy Durkee, John and Denise Fisher, Ralph Rooker, Lawrence Thibeaux, and Brad Kramer.



**Treehouse for Kids:** Local 19 members raised \$5,000 for the Seattle-based charity Treehouse for Kids. Steve Wintermute and Carol Brogdon presented Janis Avery, CEO of Treehouse, with a check for \$5,000 on behalf of Local 19 on the KIRO Ross and Burbank radio show.



**Tacoma Toys:** Local 23 members donated over \$26,000 this year to buy toys for children in need.



Photo by Kelley Kane

Local 10 member and volunteer elf, Joy Daniels, takes a break to hibernate with the bears.



**Thousands of smiles in the Southland:** The Sothern California ILWU Children's Party helps approximately 3,000 children every year.

#### Tacoma toy drive

Local 23 members in Tacoma, WA held a toy drive giveaway in their hall on Sunday December 16. The ILWU members individually donated over \$26,000 in toys and money into the toy drive account this year including contributions from pensioners and \$1,500 from members of ILWU Local 98. Local 23 toy drive committee, Holly Hulscher, Mandy Peterson, Amy James and Kim Boespflug used the donations to purchased bikes, skateboards, toys, jackets and sporting equipment from a local union store for over 500 children in the community.

Representatives from 16 local organizations along with Local 23 volunteers selected age and gender appropriate toys from a list of children in need. Thanks to the generosity of Local 23 and Local 98 members and pensioners, there were enough toys for them to go around select a second toy for each child.

Local 23 received several thank you cards from the families and one of them said that when they saw the

excitement on their child's face after they opened their presents on Christmas morning it brought them to tears because they were so grateful for the generosity.

In addition to the \$26,000 for the toy drive, Local 23 members donated over \$28,000 in gifts cards to a union store that will benefit grade school children in local schools who are in need.

Members of Local 23 have also been donating to and volunteering at St. Leo's Hospitality Kitchen to feed people in need for over 20 years. This year there were over \$10,000 in donations to St. Leo's which provides food several days a week to people in need. Byron Baydo, a local 23 member, along with Peter Yakimenko, Dave Reda, Kevin Terrell, Eddy Flores, Mike Mostrom, Tom Dolly and Kim Boespflug all volunteer in the food line every month. Byron said "It's with gratitude that we are able to help our community members who are less fortunate every month as we have been blessed with a secure and fruitful living with the ILWU!"



**Helping hard-hit families in Vancouver:** The Longshoremen's Local 4 Credit Union in Vancouver, WA, adopted four families to help during the holidays. One family was a mom with two boys who burst into tears when she saw the pile of donated items, and enough food for a "real" meal. Another family helped by Local 4 members had just given away their Christmas tree to do something nice for their neighbors who had even less. Santa paid a visit to Longshore families in Vancouver on Saturday, December 15th. The credit Union sent a special "thanks" to Larry and Sandy Webb for making the event a success.

# Leo Robinson: ILWU activist led anti-apartheid struggle



Photo by David Bacon

Local 10 activist Leo Robinson passed away on January 14th at the age of 75, leaving behind a legacy of passionate advocacy for his union, for the working class, the struggle against racism and the battle to end Apartheid in South Africa.

Robinson was outspoken and not afraid of controversy. He frequently challenged officials and union policies, using his passion and public speaking skills to command respect from his audience. “When he took the floor to speak, people always listened and gave him respect – even if they didn’t agree with him” said ILWU Local 10 President Mike Villegiante.

Born in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1937, Robinson moved with his family to the East Bay during World War II. Both parents found jobs at Moore’s Ship, one of many shipyards in the Bay Area’s booming wartime economy that hired African Americans because of a labor shortage, executive orders signed by President Roosevelt and organized protests to end discriminatory hiring. Along with his parents and four siblings, he lived in the Cypress Village

housing project, located in West Oakland with many other African-Americans who settled in communities where color-lines were tightly drawn.

After the war, Robinson’s father got a job on the waterfront and became a member of ILWU Local 10, which had been founded on the principle of racial equality. Robinson attended Oakland Technical High School, but quit in the 12th grade to join the US Navy where he served almost four years following the Korean War. After an honorable discharge, Robinson was briefly a member of the ILWU Ship Scaler’s Local 2, then took a job at GM’s Fisher Body plant in Oakland, but hated the monotony of the assembly line.

In 1963, ILWU Local 10 accepted Robinson as a “B-man” where he enjoyed the great variety of tasks and cargoes that came before containerization. He earned his A-status around 1967 while containers were making an impact in Oakland, but disliked working as a lasher and decided to become a winch driver instead.

Robinson became politicized in the late 1960’s during the war in Vietnam. He remembered a day when he and others in his gang were talking about

the war when a co-worker asked some questions that he couldn’t answer. Robinson responded by educating himself and looking to others for help, including Archie Brown, Local 10’s well-known, proud and public member of the Communist Party. From that time onward, Robinson became an activist who dedicated himself to protecting fellow workers, promoting union democracy, and defending the contract. He frequently spoke at meetings, served several terms on the Local 10 Executive Board and was elected as a Longshore Caucus delegate.

Inspired in 1976 by the uprising of South African students in Soweto, Robinson helped form Local 10’s Southern Africa Liberation Support Committee (SALSC) – the first anti-apartheid group in an American labor union – and proudly noted that SALSC was created by a vote of Local 10’s rank-and-file. Along with Larry Wright, Dave Stewart, Bill Proctor, and others, their group led a successful one-day boycott of South African cargo in 1977. They also collected donations and tons of food and medical supplies that were shipped to help freedom fighters in Mozambique, South Africa, and

Zimbabwe. They worked closely with the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and community groups in the anti-apartheid movement.

Robinson’s most impressive action occurred in 1984, just weeks after President Reagan’s landslide re-election, when members of Locals 10 and 34 organized the longest boycott of South African cargo in US history. When the vessel Nedlloyd Kimberly docked at San Francisco’s Pier 80, Robinson and the SALSC were ready. Workers dispatched to Pier 80 refused to touch the South African cargo, although they unloaded the rest of the ship. For eleven days, as thousands rallied outside the port in support, the cargo remained in the hold – despite pressure from the PMA and a federal injunction. Six years later, when Nelson Mandela toured the US, after being released from prison, he thanked the ILWU before a sold-out crowd at the Oakland Coliseum.

Robinson remained active during his later years. “He was concerned about people all over the world,” said Larry Wright, a fellow SALSC leader. As a pensioner, Robinson attended Local 10 meetings and continued making persuasive speeches, including one that encouraged members to pass a resolution opposing the war and shut down ports on May Day of 2008. He also invested his own money in social causes – including a \$50,000 donation made in 2004 to support the dream of a Million Worker March. “Brother Leo Robinson was ruthless when it came to the question of economic and social justice,” said Local 10 member and fellow activist, Clarence Thomas.

Robinson and his wife Johnnie spent their final years together in the Sierra foothills town of Raymond, but he regularly returned to the Bay area to see union friends and family. A memorial service is being planned for the Local 10 hall.

– Peter Cole

*Peter Cole is a Professor of History at Western Illinois University. He conducted lengthy interviews with Leo Robinson for a book that will cover the history of Local 10 and longshore worker activism in Durban, South Africa.*

## Remembering Jim Santana

Jim Santana passed away on September 13, 2012 at the age of 77, after succumbing to a long-term illness. He was a pensioner from ILWU local #34 in San Francisco, and had retired in 1998.

Jim was born in Stockton, California to Joseph Reis and Helen Santana in 1935. In 1957, Jim married his fiancé Jacklyn (Jackie) Whitehouse and they moved to the Bay Area. He applied for and was hired to work at the ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans Office in San Francisco in 1959. In 1963, he became registered in local #34, and over the

course of his working career, he served the local in many capacities. These included Labor Relations Committee and Executive Board member, as well as working on the Longshore Division’s Container Freight Station project. In 1987, Jim was selected to be the Northern California Area Welfare Director, and served in that capacity until 1994. When the Longshore Division decided to create the position of Coast Benefits Specialist at the 1994 caucus, Jim resigned as the Area Welfare Director to accept his nomination to that position.

Jim was also actively involved in the ILWU-FSC Federal Credit Union in Oakland. As their Supervisory Chair-

man, he was instrumental in helping to lead the credit union out of conservatism in 1988. Through his diligence and hard work, he helped to form the ILWU-FSC Federal Credit Union into what it is today, serving thousands of working class people throughout the Bay Area. I had the privilege to work with Jim when I was on the credit union’s board of directors, and saw firsthand his enthusiasm for helping people, his hard work ethics, and the importance he placed on giving back. Jim held the position of credit union Supervisory Chairman until 2006.

Jim was a kind and friendly man to all who knew him. He loved his family,

and loved the ILWU. He enjoyed traveling with his family and would often post pictures online of his travels (he also enjoyed photography). He would include short captions about his travel experiences for each new journey. Jim is survived by his wife Jackie; his sons Reis (Local 34) and Andre; grandchildren Rick, Jason (Local 75), Nick, Jeff, Chris, CJ (ID Local 75) and Louis; and great grandchildren Jovaun and Arianna. He will be missed by all.

– John Castanho  
ILWU Coast Benefits Specialist



## Rising early to salute the King in San Francisco

ILWU members were honored by the San Francisco Labor Council for a generous \$250,000 contribution from the Coast Longshore Division to rebuild the Booker T. Washington Community Center in San Francisco. Dozens of Bay Area ILWU members attended the honors at the Council's annual Martin Luther King breakfast on February 14. International Vice President (Mainland) Ray Familathe and International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams joined members from throughout the Bay Area. The Labor Council has reduced the long-winded speeches by labor officials and politicians – and focused instead on rising rank-and-file leaders who gain valuable experience by emceeding the event. Young students are given a chance to read their award-winning essays about Martin Luther King's legacy. "All our political friends still get recognized," said SF Labor Council President Connie Ford, "but we've shifted the emphasis to focus on new leaders – including immigrants and students – who get their chance to shine and develop their speaking skills in front of a large audience."

## ILWU women attend Summer Institute & support hotel workers



Photo by Jamie Hansen

IBU Secretary-Treasurer Terri Mast held the microphone and shared her experiences during the Summer Institute for Union Women at California's Sonoma State University on July 23-27.

A dozen other ILWU women attended the event including Local 6 members Xiomara Martinez and Josefa Solano; Local 10 members Tammie Arnold, Rose Faaola, Deborah Ferrell, Vanetta Hamlin, Jackie Jackson, La Tanya Lyles-Taylor, Nicole Mendez and Debbie Santana-Watts, plus IBU San Francisco Regional Director Marina Secchitano.

The theme for last year's conference was "School for a New Generation," which emphasized the importance of training, mentoring, and inspiring

new leaders in the labor movement. Conference participants concluded the event by joining a picket line of 200 activists at the Petaluma Sheraton who rallied to support hotel workers who are fighting for a union contract that expired in 2009. Local officials joining the picket line included Petaluma Mayor David Glass, Vice Mayor Tiffany Renée, Councilmember Teresa Barrett and former mayor Pam Torliatt, plus supporters from local Occupy groups. The annual Institute for Union Women is sponsored by the AFL-CIO and the United Association for Labor Education. This year's Summer Institute will be held the week of June 25th at the University of Washington. For information about attending the event contact: Cheryl.Coney@seattlecolleges.edu.



**East Bay workers join MLK Day:** Following the breakfast in San Francisco, some ILWU members converged on the Local 6 hall in Oakland where community groups sponsored an annual rally featuring a gospel choir, political speeches, choral readings by students, a performance by young rappers and dancers – and a visit by many Local 6 recycling workers who are facing illegal retaliation and discrimination by their employer, Waste Management. The company's illegal threats and intimidation came after workers announced plans for a legal job action to defend their rights. Pictured standing are (L-R): ILWU Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Fred pecker at podium, Adrian Ruvalcava, Mayra Vega, Leticia Lopez and Rebeca Murillo. A speech prepared for the MLK rally by Waste Management worker Jose Romero (not pictured) will appear in next month's Dispatcher.

## Two worlds, one brotherhood

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to know that we had friends in the Panama Canal. Londor was very impressed at how quickly the whole Coast could respond to what was happening at the Big Table. The rank and file solidarity amazed him and he wanted to know more about the ILWU. The result of that experience led to the affiliation of our unions.

After I told Vice President Familathe about my experience in Panama, he said to me: "ILWU solidarity efforts have crossed borders for many years. Our recent affiliation with the Panama Canal

Pilots is a part of that tradition. Solidarity doesn't always have to be a labor action or rally. Small acts of member-to-member solidarity and friendship like helping out a brother or sister who is in a tough spot help make this union great."

I had a great trip to Panama. Some of the greatest highlights for me were meeting new friends and union brothers. We really do have a great Union and the fit with the I.L.W.U. and the Panama Canal Pilots is truly a good one.

– Rodney A. Edgbert

## Victory for Pacific Beach workers in Honolulu

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company that they didn't win. I don't want people who come after me to suffer like I did."

Kapena Kanaiaupuni, a bellman with nearly 30 years seniority, is also a member of the negotiating committee who was fired and reinstated. After rat-

ification, he was approached by immigrant Korean and Chinese workers excited about their first union contract. Differences in languages and cultures had kept them apart, but the workers' victory changed that. Kanaiaupuni told them: "Never mind about nationality – we're all one now!"



## Auxiliary 8 fundraiser bracelet

**A**s a fundraiser for their 75th Anniversary, Auxiliary 8 will be selling arm bracelets with the ILWU motto: "An Injury To One Is An Injury To All." The bracelets are navy blue with yellow writing and includes the new ILWU logo. The bracelets are \$5.00 each and are union made.

The bracelets will serve as a reminder to our brothers and sisters about the importance of unity, solidarity, and brotherhood. For more information please contact Ida Taylor at (310) 650-9286.

## A Helping Hand...

...when you need it most. That's what we're all about. We are the representatives of the ILWU-sponsored recovery programs. We provide professional and confidential assistance to you and your family for alcoholism, drug abuse and other problems—and we're just a phone call away

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**EAP—British Columbia**  
John Felicella  
3665 Kingsway, Ste 300  
Vancouver, BC V5R 5WR  
(604) 254-7911

## TRANSITIONS

### NEW PENSIONERS:

**Local 8:** Dennis A. Mc Coy; Thomas H. Wehage; Pat J. Bell; Mark K. Conley; Michael J. Meier; Fred W. Humbert; **Local 12:** Kenneth E. Shelton; **Local 13:** Elijah C. Grays; David Acebedo; Emmet R. Newsome; Adolph M. Montano; Matias Luna; Simon C. Cuevas; Thomas L. Massey; Richard P. Salkeld; Bruce M. Craven; Roland P. Pleasant; Luis J. Ameca; Ronald A. Linares; Lee J. Pomeroy; Larry D. Steven; John Sukeena; **Local 18:** Robert L. Mc Guire; **Local 19:** Ross F. Atlee; **Local 23:** Bud L. Brown; Richard H. Jurun; **Local 34:** Gregory L. Delucchi;

**Local 40:** Steven E. Stahr; Huarleen Bain; **Local 52:** Marc A. Leach; Joseph R. Ursich; **Local 63:** Norman B. Loveridge; Rudy Negrete; Paul A. Zuliani; Anthony Sogliuzzo; Arthur L. Steinbroner; Ronald Vasquez; James B. Seixas; Frederick L. Wheelwright; Charles Jackson; Ralph E. Mitchell; Jack D. Mitchell; Michael A. Zuliani; Linda C. Banda Deborah E. Crews; Telitha I. Mc Gee; Dara T. Morovich; Darlene F. Balducci; **Local 92:** James M. Jones; **Local 94:** Paul F. Maynez; Calvin W. Emberton, Sr.; Vincent J. Leonardo; Donald G. Smith; John L. Hoblet; **Local 98:** Jimmie D. Charboneau;

### DECEASED PENSIONERS:

**Local 4:** Dorsey S. Schalk; **Local 7:** Eric Nygren; **Local 8:** Steve D. O'neil; Claudis M. Banks, Sr.(Greta); **Local 10:** Fred D. Hogan; Richard E. Matier (Bernice); Claudie Young; Hermon S. Gosey Jr; **Local 12:** Edward Lindquist (Wanda); **Local 13:** Tom Andrade; George Dillon; Robert J. Adler; Kevin R. Schroeder; Jack G. Ward; Dennis A. Gesualdi; Joe P. Saenz, Jr.; **Local 19:** Richard A. Groscup; Dominic Picinich; John A. Holmes; **Local 23:** Richard P. Flores; **Local 24:** Donald Pederson; **Local 30:** James Currie; **Local 46:** Manuel J. Garcia; **Local 52:** Martin Mac Kinnon; **Local 54:** Benjamin

Guzman; **Local 63:** Ramon Rendon (Minelia); Maurice J. Huddleston; **Local 75:** James O. Mcdonald; **Local 94:** Quency L. Ross; Ted Ronca; Nick T. Poduje (Nancy); **Local 98:** Gaston Bicheray Jr

### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

**Local 8:** Joann Halbrook; **Local 10:** Anna M. Rodick; Rose G. Rodgers; Willie Franklin; Doris D. Foster; **Local 13:** Elsie M. Credico; Norma L. Brutti; Anne M. Pekich; **Local 26:** Shirley Mascitto; **Local 32:** Elizabeth Crabtree; **Local 34:** Phyllis Hurtado;

## ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

Books and videos about the ILWU are available from the union's library at discounted prices!

### BOOKS

**Solidarity Stories: An Oral History of the ILWU.** By Harvey Schwartz. An inspiring collection of first-hand accounts from ILWU union leaders and rank-and-file workers. \$17.00.

**A Spark Is Struck: Jack Hall & the ILWU in Hawaii.** By Sanford Zalburg: A high quality re-issue of the informative epic account of Jack Hall and the birth and growth of the ILWU in Hawaii \$13.50 (paperback).

**The Legacy of 1934: An historical exhibit by the ILWU.** Produced as a catalogue to accompany the new traveling historical art exhibit about the origins of the ILWU in the 1934 maritime strike, this brief but vivid publication stands on its own as a pictorial history of the coastwise strike and an account of the extraordinary sacrifices and democratic principles of the founding members of the union. **Two (2) for \$5.00**

**Harry Bridges: The Rise and Fall of Radical Labor in the United States.** By Charles Larrowe. A limited number of copies of this out-of-print and useful biography are now available through the book sale by special arrangement with Bolerium Books in San Francisco, which specializes in rare publications and documents about radical and labor history. **\$10.00**

**The ILWU Story.** This book unrolls the history of the union from its origins to the present, complete with recollections from the men and women who built the union, in their own words, and dozens of rare photos of the union in action. **\$5.00**

**The Big Strike.** By Mike Quin. The classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. **\$9.00**

**The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront.** By David Wellman. The important new study of longshoring in the ILWU. **\$20.00** (paperback)

**The March Inland: Origins of the ILWU Warehouse Division 1934-1938.** By Harvey Schwartz. A new edition of the only comprehensive account of the union's organizing campaign in the northern California warehouse and distribution industry. **\$9.00**

### VIDEOS

**"Eye of the Storm: Our Fight for Justice and a Better Contract."** A 58-minute DVD feature documentary film produced and directed by Amie Williams, Eye of the Storm tells the story of the 2002 longshore lockout on the West Coast. DVD Version **\$5.00**

**"We Are the ILWU."** A 30-minute color video introducing the principles and traditions of the ILWU. Features active and retired members talking about what the union meant in their lives and what it needs to survive and thrive, along with film clips, historical photos and an original musical score. DVD or VHS version **\$5.00**

**"Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges."** A 17-minute DVD of the original video production by California Working Group, Inc., memorializes Harry Bridges through still photographs, recorded interviews, and reminiscences. Originally produced for the 1990 memorial service in San Francisco. DVD **\$5.00**

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